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[Asian Student Caucus - Assertion of Identity and Principals [sic], April 3, 1989]

Asian Student Caucus, Sarah Lawrence College

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First drafted March 15, 1989,
second issue April 3, 1989

**Asian Student Caucus- assertion of Identity and principals;
Response to the Faculty / Administration Joint Response dated
March 15, 1989 regarding the Concerned Students of Color
document dated March 8, 1989.**

We, the newly formed Asian Student Caucus, acknowledge the pressing need on the part of the Asian community at Sarah Lawrence to assert their cultural concerns and take advantage of the present forum to address the pressing issues at hand. The commitment to diversification of curriculum by the undersigned is unquestionably present, yet our specific references are non-existent in the Faculty/Administration Joint document.

This exclusion is an outrage to us. Having been classified as an "other" ignores our presence, fails to address our concerns, and in fact delegates us to an unacknowledged entity, lost in a general field. We demand inclusion, specific identity, and a thoughtful response to our concerns.

Our inclusion in the document of the Concerned Students of color was supportive and helpful in establishing our concern, but now as the issue is reaching a productive stage, we the Asian Community seek to expand our role and outline our specific interests.

* Asian concerns, importance, and influence is unquestionably deserving of a concerted effort on the part of all parties. It has gone underdeveloped at Sarah Lawrence for far too long. The Faculty we have now are of quality. They deserve recognition and respect. However we desire more diversification within the Asian field of study: South Asian, East Asian, Middle Eastern and South-East Asian concerns must be equally concentrated within the discipline.

* Full articulation in the process of re-evaluation of curriculum and Faculty of Color must specifically address an Asian faculty contingent. We demand full support for the Concerned Students of Color specification regarding the appointment of three (3) Asian Faculty to tenure track appointments. Two of the three should teach race specific classes and one a non-race specific course load. Asian Languages, Asian Literature, Asian History, Eastern Philosophy and Religion, and Contemporary Asian-American Studies are all specific departments we feel call for constructive and expansive implementation.

* Specific reference must be made to Asian/Pacific Islanders in any address of a breakdown of the Students or Faculty of Color. To exclude us in this discourse is an infringement of our Cultural identity. This must be rectified immediately.

It is through immediate action and implementation that a heightened awareness can be most effectively achieved. The cultivation of curiosity and interest in Asian Curriculum depends on the concentrated effort by the faculty and administration. Asian Studies must be a priority fully integrated in a commitment to a culturally diverse curriculum.

